



The Alaskan Way Viaduct & Seawall Replacement Project

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

Washington State
Department of Transportation

City of Seattle

AUGUST 2005 COMMENT SUMMARY

Introduction

The Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Project database contains 6,130 comments, 25 of which were submitted in August of 2005.

Origin of comments

Seven of the comments received came from attendees at community briefings held by the project team, and 14 comments were submitted via email.

Thirteen comments were received from the southern area of the project, one from the northern area, and one from the central area. One comment was received from outside the project corridor and the origin of eight comments could not be determined.

Comment Categories

Each comment submitted is categorized by the content of the message. Please note that depending on content, some comments were grouped into more than one category. There are 60 comment categories divided into six sections. The sections are economic, structures/locations, transportation, design and construction, and environmental/public safety. The comment categories range from cost and freight to traffic, air pollution and public safety.

Comments were received in the areas listed below. These are groups of similar categories with the ideas that were expressed in the comments.

Transportation:

This group includes categories such as traffic, connections/circulations, pedestrians, and bicycles. There were 17 comments in this group.

- What types of on and off ramps are included in the proposed tunnel?
- Will you not be able to get on at Roy and off at Denny south bound or get on at Denny and off at Mercer northbound in Lowered Aurora?
- Are you conducting parallel studies for the Rebuild alternative?

Design/Construction:

This group includes categories such as construction, urban design, the seawall, and engineering. There were two comments identified in this group.

- I see the project schedule states construction will start in 2009. Do you have an estimated completion date?
- We're very excited that the tunnel project has been approved. However, please do close down the viaduct while you're working on this project!

Economic:

The group includes categories such as cost, funding, property value/acquisition, and tolls. There were four comments in this group.

- More truck surveying needs to be done to better understand the needs of the freight community.
- There was some talk a while back of doing a stacked tunnel to allow more of the work to be done before the viaduct is torn down and possibly save money. Has there been further study done to determine if this is a good idea?
- I don't want my tax dollars being spent for an aesthetic improvement for downtown Seattle. Burying the viaduct just wastes \$2 billion additional dollars and makes congestion considerably worse during the decade it will probably take to complete.

Transit:

This group includes categories like monorail, light rail, and transit. There were two comments in this group.

- Funding for the water taxi must be recognized as a very high priority in the overall plan for the construction period, regardless of which scheme is ultimately approved.
- With the viaduct down, it would make even more sense to strengthen (the water taxi) to downtown and help it become a way of life for the West Seattle commuter in the future.